



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/960,547	09/21/2001	Shixin Qin	1855.1048-010	6606

7590

06/11/2003

Lisa M. Treannie, Esq.
HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.
Two Militia Drive
Lexington, MA 02421-4799

EXAMINER

ULM, JOHN D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1646

DATE MAILED: 06/11/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/960,574

Applicant(s)

Qin et al.

Examiner

John Ulm

Art Unit

1646

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-163 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-163 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 13 6) ☐ Other:

Art Unit: 1646

1) Claims 1 to 163 are pending in the instant application.

2) The drawings in the instant application do not comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.821(d), which requires a reference to a particular sequence identifier (SEQ ID NO:) be made in the specification and claims wherever a reference is made to that sequence. Figure 12 of the instant application describes an amino acid sequence without employing a sequence identifier. M.P.E.P. 2422.02 expressly states that "when a sequence is presented in a drawing, regardless of the format or the manner of presentation of that sequence in the drawing, the sequence must still be included in the Sequence Listing and the sequence identifier ("SEQ ID NO:X") must be used, either in the drawing or in the Brief Description of the Drawings".

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3) Claims 1 to 163 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. These claims encompass a method of inhibiting the activation of the G protein-coupled receptor (GPCR) CCR1 *in vivo* by administering an antagonistic antibody thereto. The instant specification, however, does not provide the guidance needed to predictably administer an anti-CCR1 antibody to an organism for clinical effect. It does not describe even one successful

Art Unit: 1646

working example of the administration of the administration of an antibody of the instant invention to a mammal.

To practice the claimed method *in vivo* would require a knowledge of the route, duration and quantity of administration of an anti-CCR1 antibody of the instant invention to a mammal and this information is not provided by the instant specification. The text on pages 42 to 46 of the instant specification clearly fails to supply the guidance that would be needed by a routine practitioner. The instant specification has also failed to disclose how these parameters are to be determined, how a similar method was practiced in the art with an analogous agent or to provide even a single working example, prophetic or actual, of the claimed method. In the absence of this guidance a practitioner would have to resort to a substantial amount of undue experimentation including variation in the amount and duration of administration of an anti-CCR1 antibody of the instant invention to a mammal and in determining a suitable route of administration. The instant situation, where the claims require the administration of "an effective amount of an antibody", is directly analogous to that which was addressed in *In re Colianni*, 195 U.S.P.Q. 150,(CCPA 1977), which held that a "[d]isclosure that calls for application of "sufficient" ultrasonic energy to practice claimed method of fusing bones but does not disclose what "sufficient" dosage of ultrasonic energy might be or how those skilled in the art might select appropriate intensity, frequency, and duration, and contains no specific examples or embodiment by way of illustration of how claimed method is to be practiced does not meet requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112 first paragraph".

Art Unit: 1646

The instant specification appears to be relying upon those “procedures well known to the skilled artisan” to provide the details of the claimed method. Whereas the generation of antagonistic antibodies to chemokine receptors like CCR1 was a practice that was well known in the art at the time of the instant invention, the administration of such antibodies for clinical effect does not appear to be a procedure well known to the skilled artisan at that time. A patent is granted for a completed invention, not the general suggestion of an idea and how that idea might be developed into the claimed invention. In the decision of *Genentec, Inc. v. Novo Nordisk*, 42 USPQ 2d 100, (CAFC 1997), the court held that:

“[p]atent protection is granted in return for an enabling disclosure of an invention, not for vague intimations of general ideas that may or may not be workable” and that “[t]ossing out the mere germ of an idea does not constitute enabling disclosure”. The court further stated that “when there is no disclosure of any specific starting material or of any of the conditions under which a process is to be carried out, undue experimentation is required; there is a failure to meet the enablement requirements that cannot be rectified by asserting that all the disclosure related to the process is within the skill of the art”, “[i]t is the specification, not the knowledge of one skilled in the art, that must supply the novel aspects of an invention in order to constitute adequate enablement”.

The instant specification is not enabling because one can not following the guidance presented therein and practice the claimed method without first making a substantial inventive contribution.

4) Claims 8, 13 to 15, 17, 18, 20 to 35, 39, 44 to 48, 51 to 64, 70, 75 to 77, 79, 80, 82 to 97, 103, 108 to 110, 112, 113, 115 to 130, 136, 141 to 143, 145, 146 and 148 to 163 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not

Art Unit: 1646

described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. These claims expressly require the biological material recited therein as 2D4. Applicant, their assignee or their agent needs to provide a declaration containing the following:

The identification of the declarant.

A statement that a deposit has been made in a depository affording permanence of the deposit and ready accessibility thereto by the public if a patent is granted. The depository is to be identified by name and address.

A statement that the deposited material has been accorded a specific, recited, accession number.

A statement that the material has been deposited under conditions that assure that access to the material will be available during the pendency of the patent application to one determined by the Commissioner to be entitled thereto under 37 C.F.R. 1.14 and 35 U.S.C. § 122.

A statement that the deposited material will be maintained with all of the care necessary to keep it viable and uncontaminated for a period of at least five years after the most recent request for the furnishing of a sample of the deposited microorganism, and in any case, for a period of at least thirty years after the date of deposit or for the enforceable life of the patent, whichever period is longer.

A statement by declarant that all statement made therein of declarant's knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the instant patent application or any patent issuing thereon.

Alternately, it may be averred that deposited material has been accepted for deposit under the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the

Art Unit: 1646

Purposes of Patent Procedure (e.g., see 961 OG 21, 1977) and that all restrictions on the availability to the public of the material so deposited will be irrevocably removed upon the granting of a patent. Additionally, the deposit must be referred to in the body of the specification and be identified by deposit (accession number) number, name and address of the depository, and the complete taxonomic description.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5) Claims 1 to 163 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1 to 163 are vague and indefinite because they require the administration of "an effective amount of an antibody" without indicating what activity is to be effected by that amount. Claim 1, for example, is drawn to a method of inhibiting. One would reasonably expect that even a single antibody molecule would be inhibitory to a minute extent. Therefore, it is unclear how the scope of claim 1 would be altered by the deletion of the limitation "an effective amount of". If one can not identify that subject matter which is excluded by the addition of a particular limitation to a claim then that limitation is vague.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John D. Ulm whose telephone number is (703) 308-4008. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yvonne Eyler can be reached at (703) 308-6564.

Official papers filed by fax should be directed to (703) 308-4242 or (703) 872-9306. Official responses under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 should be directed to (703) 872-9307.

Application/Control Number: 09/960,547

Page 7

Art Unit: 1646

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.



JOHN ULM
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1800